ELSEWHEN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TEMPORAL ANOMALY RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

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"EXPLORING MYSTERIES OF TIME AND SPACE"

ANNOUNCING ELSEWHEN...
MYSTERIES OF TIME AND SPACE EXPLORED!

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THE TEMPORAL ANOMALY RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Volume One Number One
Fall 1989

Editor

Mark R. Gardner

Regular Contributors

Karen Pollworth
J.L. Kelly
James McDonald
Magnús Eiriksson
Robert J. Marx
Marcia Stewart

Other Contributors

Gary S. Mangiacopra
Hugh H. Trotti, Jr.
David Wemple
Joseph A.P. Lozano
Jean Sider
Mark Buehring

Editor's Note: The articles and views in this issue of Elsewhen, unless otherwise stated, are those of the author and are not necessarily those endorsed by the Editor or the Temporal Anomaly Research Association.

Address correspondence about subscriptions and advertising to:

The Temporal Anomaly Research Association
P.O. Box 20173
Keizer, OR 97307 U.S.A.

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Message from the Editor

Welcome to the first issue of *Elsewhen*, the official newsletter of the Temporal Anomaly Research Association (T.A.R.A.), a research organization that was founded in December 1988. Beginning a new endeavor is never easy and we hope that you will bear with us in the next several issues. In each issue of *Elsewhen* we will publish articles, editorials and reviews dealing with Mysteries of Time and Space. Although the emphasis of T.A.R.A. is with Time, a wide range of Fortean, New Age and scientific subjects will be discussed in regular features and columns.

What is a *temporal anomaly*? Basically, a temporal anomaly is any event or occurrence which seems to violate the known or expected laws of Time. These anomalies (which may explain a great deal of Forteana) might involve a "natural", though unknown, process of Time, a "malfunction" or "tear" in the fabric of Space and Time (ie, a Time Warp), repercussions up and down Time caused by future experiments in time travel, some unknown ability or process of the mind, or the "intervention" by unknown agents. And, of course, there are a lot of hoaxes, mentally disturbed people and misinterpreted occurrences. Nevertheless, the shear number of anomalies that may be related in some way to Time is quite staggering. We will explore them.

We hope you will enjoy this and every issue of *Elsewhen*. We want this publication to be interesting and thought-provoking, as well as perhaps shedding some light on some of the mysteries that plague Mankind. We are very interested in having people contribute to the success of *Elsewhen* by submitting short articles, illustrations and newspaper clippings. We also welcome any and all suggestions and comments on this newsletter. Thanks for joining us and we hope to keep you anxiously waiting for each and every issue.

Mark R. Gardner

WHO IS TARA?

MARK GARDNER, a lifelong reader and researcher of the Supernatural, the Unexplained and Fortean literature, founded the Temporal Anomaly Research Association in 1988. Born and raised in Oregon, Mark spent a great deal of his time collecting and reading books about The Bermuda Triangle, ghosts, and UFO's. Erich von Däniken's "Chariots of the Gods?" and the books of Frank Edwards showed him that there was a lot more 'out there' to explore. Mark spent the summer of 1979 in Iceland, where he became fascinated with the wealth of ancient Viking and Icelandic sagas and folklore. Mark took the step from passive to active research after reading John Keel's "Our Haunted Planet." That and the purchase of several years' worth of old *Fate* magazines at a local used book store, were the catalyst that eventually lead to the birth of TARA and *Elsewhen*. Mark will be writing about Time Travel, Time Warps, and a variety of Fortean phenomena, in addition to editing *Elsewhen*. Mr. Gardner is in the process of having some of his theories copyrighted and is preparing a number of articles for various journals and magazines.

KAREN POLLWORTH is a working mother from New York. She has long been interested in a variety of different Fortean and non-Fortean occurrences for years. She will be sharing her thoughts and experiences in some of the mind-related and metaphysical areas of research. She is especially interested in out-of-body experiences, telepathy, clairvoyance, and other powers of the body, mind and soul.

J.L. KELLY is a researcher interested in cryptozoology and out-of-place artifacts. In some of the articles he will submit, he will be discussing lake monsters, sea serpents, Bigfoot, the Yeti, and all of the legends of man-like beings, such as leprechauns, elves, fairies, trolls, mermaids, etc. Mr. Kelly will also cover articles relating to Ireland, the land of his ancestors. He speaks some Gaelic.

JAMES McDONALD brings his interest in ghosts, poltergeists, hauntings, and any related subject to *Elsewhen*. He is especially interested in ghost trains, ships and animals, as well as other phantoms of the night. He is also interested in survival after death and certain meteorological phenomena. He will also be our resident expert on the British Isles.

MAGNÚS EIRIKSSON is a self-taught expert on Scandinavia, the Vikings and Norse legends and literature. He will be writing on a wide variety of interests in the pages of *Elsewhen*. He reads and understands an impressive number of foreign languages. He is very interested in UFOs and USOs.

BOB MARX is a history buff and will be contributing articles on lost civilizations and technology, Greek and Roman legends and literature, mystery spots, Stonehenge, pyramids, the Bermuda Triangle, etc. He is also an expert on warfare and weapons -- past and present.

MARCIA STEWART is the last, but not least, of our regular contributors. Her interests are philosophy and religion. She is especially interested in the historical (or lack thereof) background to the Bible. She will most likely be the most controversial contributor in coming issues of *Elsewhen*.

This Issue of Elsewhen
Is Dedicated to the Memory of

Samantha Smith
1972-1985

And Her Dream of Peace
In the World

Samantha made headlines in 1982 when she wrote a letter to then Soviet Premier Andropov asking him why he wanted to destroy the world. She and her family were invited to the Soviet Union as guests of the Soviet People. Her 1983 trip to the U.S.S.R. added a crack to the Iron Curtain. In 1985 she was cast in the new series Lime Street. Then tragedy struck: Flying home from filming in Europe, the plane carrying Samantha, her father and six other people crashed. There were no survivors. Thus ended the bright, brief life of America's youngest peace envoy. We miss you, Samantha.

Temporal Anomalies: Fortean Mysteries Explained?

by Mark R. Gardner

What exactly is *Time*? No poet, philosopher or scientist at any time during recorded history has been able to answer that question completely. For many years it seemed as if physicists like Einstein had the last word on this subject but that is no longer the case -- old theories are being superseded by new theories or the old theories are being rewritten. Time has often been called *The Fourth Dimension*, yet when most people think of Time, they think of the clock on the wall or some abstract concept that cannot be touched or tested. They believe that Time stretches from the past, through the present and into the future in a straight and direct line. But is that *really* the case? Is Time linear or does it operate in some other fashion? Perhaps Man will never know the full answer.

In this article I will be discussing the subject of *temporal anomalies*. Just what is a temporal anomaly? In my own definition, it is any event or occurrence that does not seem to fit our accepted ideas of the flow and order of Time. Such Time-related phenomena have been written and talked about from prehistoric times to the present day. I have been intrigued with this subject for many years and believe that some unknown phenomenon or operation of Time is the reason behind many of the mysteries that fascinate and confuse us.

Here are a few examples of what I would call temporal anomalies:

1. A couple stays at an old-fashioned country inn and returns later to find no trace of the building. Locals state that the inn the couple claim to have stayed in burned down more than *75 years before*!

2. A man on his way home from work finds himself on an unfamiliar road. The landmarks and signs are totally unknown to him. He eventually arrives home several hours after he should have. His watch has lost 2 hours.

3. A family on a fishing trip in Canada is suddenly confronted by a water-dwelling monster of some sort. The members of the family later identify it as resembling a plesiosaurus. Dinosaurs have been extinct for tens of millions of years!

4. An airliner on approach for a landing suddenly disappears from radar screens. Even though the ocean in that area was only 30 feet deep, no sign of the plane or its passengers and crew is ever found.

Just how can things like this happen? It appears that for some special moment, our time and another time can cross each other; therefore, contemporary people can spend the night at a long-gone inn and then come back to find it a weed-infested ruin and so on. Cases like this are by no means rare. They can happen at any time at any place. As a matter of fact, hundreds of such stories are reported around the world each year. Hundreds more are probably not reported -- presumably for fear of ridicule. I had a personal experience a few years ago that I was reluctant to discuss until recently and it seems to fit into this phenomenon. While some stories are most likely due to confusion, anxiety, hoaxes or delusions, there are just too many to dismiss without bringing up some serious questions.

* * * * *

The Sea has long been the scene of many of the mysteries of the ages. Nearly everyone has heard of sea monsters, the *Flying Dutchman*, the *Marie Celeste* or areas of disappearances like the famed Bermuda Triangle. Even today, ships disappear regularly and many strange things are seen by credible witnesses.

In ancient and medieval times, sailors believed that all kinds of monsters inhabited the seas just over the horizon. Old maps bear the legend "Here Be Monsters" in areas that were unexplored. Where did this fear of monsters come from? Certainly, the religious beliefs of the time, a fear of the unknown, the belief that the world was flat, and the unexplained disappearances of ships had a lot to do with this. Were monsters real or were they invented to explain away mysteries? Zoologists say that the sirens and mermaids of mythology and sea-tales are the seals and manatees of reality. What about the well-known *kraken* of Scandinavian myth? The discovery of giant squids and octopi explained that monster away.[1] Still, how do you explain the sightings of sea

serpents? Although the seas are quite vast and deep, most oceanographers do not believe that huge, sea-dwelling dinosaur-like reptiles have survived to the present day.

In Iceland, some sea serpents are known as *skrimslar*. When I was an exchange student to Iceland in 1979, I heard stories of these creatures. Everyone is aware of the dragon's head and tail that decorated the Viking ships of centuries past. Was this copied from true life instead of myth? Good skrimslar sightings off Iceland were made in 1345, 1749, 1819 and 1860. The beasts were generally described as having a horse-like head, long neck and humps on the back.[2]

On January 18, 1852, Captain Seabury of the ship *Monongahela* spotted a wounded creature about one hundred feet long and sent out boats to harpoon it. The crew cut off the head as a trophy. The head was ten feet long and contained 94 sharp teeth. After recounting the story to Captain Gavitt of the *Rebecca Sims*, the *Monongahela* and its prize sailed off, never to be seen again.[3]

During World War I, a German U-boat commanded by Georg Freiherr von Forstner, surfaced after sinking the British ship *Iberian* on July 30, 1915. The German captain was shocked to see a 60-foot long "crocodile with a long neck" thrashing in the water.[4] Had the beast been injured by the torpedo blast? Later, on May 22, 1917, Captain F.W. Dean of the Royal Navy filed a report stating that he and his crew observed a 60-foot creature with a long neck on the surface at a distance of only 30 yards. He stated that it definitely was not a whale or shark.[5]

More recently, on December 30, 1947 Captain William Humphreys of the Grace Line ship *Santa Clara* reported seeing a 45-foot creature with an eel-like head "thrashing in a large area of bloody water and foam."[6]

Yes, the seas are enormous and there is a good chance that unknown animals live in its depths. Still, it is difficult to believe that a species of air-breathing sea-dinosaurs has survived to the present with so few sightings. Of course, if they were not always *here* in the present, then that would explain a lot.

Ever since Man first put to sea in boats, he has seen strange vessels that appear and disappear. Are these the products of sea-weary minds or actual apparitions of some kind? I'll let you be the judge.

On February 14, 1754 fishermen off the Long Island coast were shocked to see three sailing ships appear out of nowhere and engage in a battle. Although no sounds were heard, the smoke from cannons could be seen. After about 15 minutes, the ships gradually faded away.[7] Somehow the sight (but not the sound) of a past or future battle was projected through Time into that area.

In the approaches to New York Harbor on March 14, 1886 the Cunard Liner *Oregon* was struck by a mysterious vessel and sank. Fortunately, all of the passengers and crew were saved. No wreckage or bodies from another ship were ever found.[8] Did a ship from elsewhen "pop in" and then "pop out" after the collision?

Percival Wren, author of *Beau Geste*, was on vacation at the English Channel in July of 1905. One day, while on the beach, he was surprised to see a Viking dragon-ship rowing towards the shore. He could hear the voices of men on the ship. As the boat reached the shore, a man was tossed from the ship onto the sand. When Wren ran forward to help, the ship and man had disappeared. Wren was certain that he had witnessed an event that had happened one thousand years before.[9]

On or after December 22, 1928 the Danish training ship *Köbenhavn*, then the largest sailing ship in the world, disappeared in the South Atlantic. On board were sixty crew members and cadets. Eventually, the ship was declared lost with all hands. Yet on July 14, 1930 the *Köbenhavn* was seen under full sail by the Argentine ship *Maria*. It was seen again in the Summer of 1937 off Ecuador by the sea-going yacht *Mariposa Junior*.[10] Is the ship trapped in Time somehow and popping in and out of our world at random?

The Bermuda or Devil's Triangle is an area of water that lies off the coast of Florida. Over the past several hundred years, hundreds of ships and planes have disappeared in this area without a trace. Researchers have come up with many theories to try to explain the large numbers of disappearances. Everything from pirates to massive tidal waves has been

theory is that there is an underwater UFO base in this area and survivors of Atlantis are the pilots! They rise up out of the depths to capture ships and planes for their nefarious reasons.

Usually, when a ship sinks or an airplane crashes into the sea, it leaves lots of floating wreckage and an oil slick. Yet in the Bermuda Triangle, hundreds of ships and planes have supposedly vanished without leaving even a floating splinter. Is there a doorway to another time there?

During the First World War, one of the biggest ships in United States Navy was the collier *U.S.S. Cyclops*. With her two sister ships, the massive ship hauled ore and coal for the Navy. The ship had a crew of some 300 men. On March 4, 1918, while en route from the Barbados to Norfolk, Virginia, the huge ship disappeared. No trace of the ship or its crew was ever found.[11]

On August 8, 1956 the Coast Guard Cutter *Yamacraw* was on patrol in the Bermuda Triangle. At 1:30 a.m., a large landmass was detected on radar at a distance of 28 miles. The charts showed no land in that area. As the ship closed in, a huge, dark *mass* could be observed stretching from horizon to horizon. It was a brownish-gray in color and began about two feet *above* the water. The ship was steered into the *mass*. To the crew it seemed like suspended dirt or sand. The engine became rough and the crew found breathing hard. The ship was quickly steered out of the *mass*. At dawn the mysterious *mass* faded away without a trace.[12] One can only guess what would have happened to the ship and crew if they had not left the *mass* when they did. They might have become another statistic.

As mentioned before, not only do ships disappear in this area, but also a large number of aircraft. One of the most famous about stories revolves around the five Navy planes that disappeared without a trace in 1945. On December 5, Flight 19, consisting of five TBM's, took off from the Fort Lauderdale Naval Air Station for a routine training flight. The weather was clear. The flight was normal until the planes turned for home. Suddenly, the flight leader apparently reported that they were lost and that the sky and sea did not look normal. After a number of confusing transmissions, contact was lost.

A Mariner flying boat was dispatched on a rescue mission in case the planes had had to ditch at sea. The Mariner also disappeared. To this date, no trace has been found of these planes.[13]

Another mysterious aircraft disappearance occurred on September 10, 1971. A U.S. Air Force F-4 Phantom jet from Homestead A.F.B. was on a routine flight. Radar was tracking the jet at a distance of 85 miles when it suddenly disappeared from the screens. The water where the jet disappeared was only thirty feet deep and yet a 25,000 square mile search yielded no trace of the jet or its crew. Where did they go?[14] Did the jet fly through a window of some sort?

Halfway around the world from the Bermuda Triangle, in Siberia, there occurred one of the greatest mysteries of all time in 1908. The event happened in the Tunguska region of the Siberian steppes. At that time, only a handful of people and a few herds of reindeer lived there. Early on the morning of June 30th, an object was seen to streak across the skies of Asia. Some witnesses claim that the object appeared to make a slight course change during its fall. At 7:17 a.m. there was a massive explosion. Witnesses described a bright flash of light, a rush of wind and heat, and a huge mushroom-like cloud of smoke. Trees around the explosion site were knocked flat for miles. Reindeer and people were charred to death. Afterwards, a black rain fell.[15] What had happened? It was not until after the atomic bombings on Japan that a possible clue to this mystery was found. The accounts of the explosion closely matched that of Japanese survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki! An atomic bomb in 1908? The most popular theory of the Great Siberian Explosion is that an alien spaceship, powered by atomic energy, exploded due to a malfunction. But isn't it just as possible that a contemporary or future nuclear weapon was pulled back in Time somehow?

On October 10, 1931 America's newest dirigible *U.S.S. Akron* was supposed to fly over a football game in Huntington, West Virginia. Hundreds in the area watched as a blimp approached over the Ohio River at an altitude of about 300 feet. Suddenly, at about 2:50 p.m., the blimp buckled and fell to the ground. Three or four parachutes were observed. Yet a

thorough search of the area revealed no sign of wreckage or survivors! Later it was discovered that the *Akron* had not been allowed to make the fly-over and was many miles away at the time of the apparent crash. None of the companies that operated blimps at that time reported missing an airship. The mystery was never solved.[16]

Between November 1896 and April 1897, thousands of people from California to Illinois, in a total of 18 different states, reported seeing mysterious vehicles of some sort flying overhead. The airships were described as being balloon-like with wings and propellers. Many of the observers reported seeing people in the aircraft. What is strange about these reports is that they happened some seven years *before* the Wright Brothers made their historic flight at Kitty Hawk.[17] Either the history books are wrong or something from some other time was flying around at that time.

This brings us to the question of those mysterious and controversial unidentified flying objects (UFO's). Many people believe that the story of Ezekiel and the Wheel in the Bible might be a "close encounter." Be that as it may, the modern UFO story goes back to World War II. Throughout the war, small objects were seen flying behind or alongside aircraft. These objects were dubbed *foo fighters*. Many pilots believed that these objects were secret enemy devices of some sort. After the war was over, dozens of civilian sightings were made around the world. On June 24, 1947, while flying over Mount Rainier, Washington, pilot Kenneth Arnold reported seeing a formation of silvery disks that looked like inverted saucers. From this sighting came the nickname "flying saucer".[18] Tens of thousands of sightings have been made in the last forty years. While many of these are hoaxes or explainable things, a certain small percentage of these sightings have never been adequately explained. The popular theory is that these are spacecraft from another planet. I believe that these are time machines from our own future sent back to observe the past and gather historical data. It is interesting that UFO's seem to be very interested in nuclear power plants, military bases, historically important locations, and the space program. The mystery continues.

Not only do ships and aircraft appear and disappear, so do people. Most people that disappear without a trace are probably victims of crime. Others disappear of their own design. The truly shocking thing is that thousands of people disappear each year, never to be seen again. These people have to go *somewhere*. A handful of strange appearances are also on the record. Still, how would you explain when a *group* of people appears or disappears? Don't laugh, this occurs often enough.

In a new housing estate in Dunblane, Scotland, a family reported hearing interesting sounds beginning in 1974. On several occasions, members of the family heard the sound of marching men, voices calling, and the "jingle" of weapons or armor. After doing some research, the man of the family discovered that the doomed Roman IX Legion had been encamped in the area in 117 A.D. An ancient Roman road had passed near the family's home.[19] Can the sounds of long ago cross through Time? It is too convenient to blame all such things as "ghosts."

In the northwest of England, in Cumberland, there is a mountain named Souter-Fell or Soutra Fell. In the Summer of 1743, a large group of men, horses and dogs were observed going up the mountain. Upon examination the next day, no trace of this *army* could be found. A year later, on June 23, another large troop of men on horseback was seen going up the mountainside. Again, there was no physical trace that they had passed that way.[20] Had the images of some past or future events somehow become visible for a brief amount of time?

Another classic story is that of the disappearance of a whole battalion of men during the ill-fated Gallipoli Campaign during World War I. On August 12, 1915 Sir Horace Beauchamp led the First-Fifth Norfolk Battalion into battle against the Turks. On that day, a strange mist had supposedly come over parts of the battlefield. About 145 men of the First-Fifth were seen to march into a strange brownish cloud shaped somewhat like a loaf of bread. The *cloud* then rose and drifted away. The men were never seen again.[21] This is reminiscent of the *mass* that the Coast Guard cutter mentioned above observed. Is it part of the same phenomenon? Lately, a number of different

persons have cast some doubt on this story.[22] Nevertheless, it is a fascinating, mysterious example of what can happen.

The next major mystery is that which I call *temporal dis-location*. Basically, this is when a person or persons seem to have been displaced in Time briefly, before returning to their correct time. Although I have mentioned things already that would seem to fit into this category, I will present a few specific examples:

Two men were driving along a country road in Louisiana on October 20, 1969. They were surprised to see an old 1940's car pull onto the road in front of them. They closed the distance and noticed that the license plate was dated "1940". As they started to pass the car, they noticed a woman and a young girl dressed in old-fashioned clothes. The woman seemed lost and looked shocked when she noticed the more modern car passing her. The men, wanting to help, motioned for her to pull over. She nodded. The two Good Samaritans then pulled to the side of the road and got out to assist the woman and child. The other car has vanished! The men searched up and down the road, but could find no trace of the old car or its passengers.[23] What happened? Did a woman and child disappear in 1940 and appear in 1969? Did they ever return to their time or are they still driving, lost in time?

In 1973 Harper and Sylvia Clark bought an old house near Lake Charles, Louisiana. It was in rundown condition and they began to completely remodel it in 1974. In February 1975, nearly finished with all the work, they arranged for a man to come out to measure for drapes and carpets. He was scheduled to arrive at 4:00 p.m. Promptly at 4 o'clock, the dogs began to bark as if someone had driven up. The Clarks looked out but could see no car. The man never showed that day. The next morning, they called to see what had happened. The man claimed that he had gone to the address he was given and found an empty, rundown house. He looked around for awhile and then went back to the shop. They asked him to describe the house he had seen. His description matched what the house had looked like *before* the Clarks moved in some two years previously.[24] Had the man somehow passed through a time warp? And why did the dogs bark as if someone had pulled up at the appointed time?

The classic story of this type centers around two Englishwomen, Annie Moberly and Eleanor Jourdain, who were on vacation in Paris in 1901. On August 10th they were touring the Royal Gardens at Versailles. As they walked along, the light around them eemed to quiver. Everything in the distance took on an artificial appearance. They came upon a group of men in three-cornered hats. Later, they saw a group of women with long, ankle-length dresses. A strong feeling of depression came over the tourists. As they continued, they came upon a woman in fancy clothes, sketching on a pad. She took no notice of them. Eventually, they walked through a gateway and everything returned to normal. They later identified the sketching woman, from a portrait, as Marie Antoinette![25] Had these English ladies been pulled back to the days of French royalty?

During World War II, off the Aleutian Islands, there occurred a mystery that has been called "The Battle of the Blips". The entire U.S. North Pacific Fleet, composed of the battleships *Idaho*, *Mississippi* and *New Mexico*, as well as five cruisers and eleven destroyers, was sent to prevent the Japanese from rescuing their garrison at Kiska. Off the island of Attu, American radar detected seven ships headed in the direction the Japanese were expected. The U.S. forces opened fire and expended a total of 212 *tons* of ammunition. The blips faded away. Several days later, in the early morning hours of July 25, 1943, the seven blips were detected again, maneuvering in the direction of Kiska. The American ships again opened fire. Salvo after salvo was fired, yet no enemy fire was returned. The targets again faded away. After the war, Japanese records showed that their forces had been many miles away at the time, way beyond the primitive radar's range. The Navy was never able to find an explanation, even though the theory of a radar malfunction was suggested.[26] Could it be that some future (or past) fleet of ships was "transported" into the Northern Pacific waters? Could they have been the phantom targets? Did these other ships detect the U.S. ships firing at them?

(Concluded in the next issue.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This section is reserved each month for letters from readers and other interested people. This area is for you to share your ideas, thoughts, questions, and personal experiences. Spelling and grammar will be corrected, when necessary, only to make the text clear. The length of some letters may be shortened to allow room for other letters, so long as the intent of the letter is not changed.

Dear Mr. Gardner,

My mother grew up in Barcelona, Venezuela. As a young child, she and her siblings enjoyed exploring this colonial city that is very much unchanged to this day. There is a certain cluster of buildings which include a cathedral, plaza (which happens to be built on a cemetary), a few scattered buildings, and a long, low wall. It was on this wall [that] many locals -- including my mother and her siblings --saw things. Things such as the silhouettes of people, pigs, goats, and carts -- all seem to have been of colonial times, for the clothes could be slightly made out by the silhouettes.

R.W.
Centreville, VA

[This seems to be an example of the theory that events can be "imprinted" on a location - Ed.]

Dear Mr. Gardner,

Something rather odd began happening to me several years ago, but I don't think it could be classified as [a] time warp in the way it has occured in the articles that I have. Perhaps others who have had this experience could enlighten me about it.

I had gotten bored with television years before, but decided to go back to watching [the] evening or 10 p.m. news on it. On some newscasts I would ask friends or neighbors what they thought of some particular event on the news the night before. (We all watched Channel 10.) They said they hadn't heard that on the news. Then, from a week to a month later, that same broadcast would be repeated. Often I would watch some of these broadcasts with others and they hadn't heard what I did. I put that down to inattention for awhile.

Then one night another broadcast of a major event was repeated (to me) about a month after I'd first heard it. And it was heard by us all. I was fussing about it being repeated so long after I first heard it. They said it had just happened and therefore was no repeat airing. They were correct and I had been hearing broadcasts well before they were actually aired... I've often wondered if this was a small time warp of future news events.

E.L.
Osceola, MO

Dear Mr. Gardner,

Probably 20 years ago, my oldest daughter and I had an experience which neither of us will ever forget, dealing with a time-frame shift...

She had been looking for a house to rent and near our home there were some beautiful country roads with both new and old houses. As we turned off Seasons Road and down what is now 532, we passed houses with signs indicating produce for sale and many other things. And then suddenly there was this absolutely beautiful home in the center of a very large plot of land... On one side of the house was a large white "PRODUCE - FRESH FOR SALE" [and] on the other was a sign "COLLIE PUPS FOR SALE - CHEAP"... We went up on the porch and looked into it, and it was as if it were brand new... Although the HOUSE looked new and mint-fresh, the rest of the place appeared as though it had been without care for years... We took the address and planned to come back later that day with my son-in-law to look again, and check further -- because it was perfect.

Imagine our complete surprise when, hours later, we returned and both the signs were in place, the tall grass was there, but no drive and no house! We checked the address we had taken and it would have been correct has there been a house at that space. We asked the neighbors and they all looked at us as though we were addled. They suggested another road... All said [that] that vacant lot had been there for many years, untended and unused. We drove around most of the remaining daylight hours attempting to find something that might have been what we thought we had seen, but we never came across it again.

M.T.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH

[It's hard to tell whether this was some sort of psychic experience or a true temporal dis-location where the past and the present crossed briefly - Ed.]

Dear Mr. Gardner,

[My mother's friend] Eve was at a red light in a taxi in Paris. It was Spring -- about 1960. She glanced at the corner and saw an elderly lady dressed in the fashion of the 1890's-1900's. The lady was short and slender, and had on a huge hat, mutton sleaves, a bustle and a frilly parasol. She was dressed completely in black.

Eve said the lady seemed agitated; very put out. Then Eve turned to speak to her companion and tell her to look at the lady on the corner. When Eve glanced back to the corner, the lady was gone. The light turned green and the taxi moved on with Eve staring open-mouthed at the empty corner. It was [as] if something bad transported the lady from her world to our world. The face of the lady expressed that.

D.H.
Baltimore, MD

[We can only hope she returned home safely - Ed.]

THE HAND OF FATE

In Latina, Italy, Biagio di Crescenzo was badly injured when his car ran off the road and hit a tree. A passerby picked him up and drove him to the hospital at Fondi, where the doctors decided to send him to Rome to a specialist. The ambulance carrying di Crescenzo hit an oncoming vehicle. A passing motorist picked him up and drove him to another hospital, where he was packed up again for Rome. That ambulance skidded on the road near the outskirts of Rome and slammed into another car. This final accident killed di Crescenzo.

* * * * *

Virginia Annable was the owner of a 1966 VW worth about $200. One day, it was stolen from her workplace in Brookhaven, New York, driven less than a mile onto a frozen bay, and torched. The burned out VW drifted off on an ice floe and eventually sank into the bay before it could be retrieved. Annable was informed that her submerged car was a hazard to navigation and that she would have to remove it at her own expense -- at least $1000. Annable's insurance did not cover this kind of loss. The U.S. Coast Guard reported to her, that if she failed to remove the sunken vehicle, they would place a buoy over it at a cost of $200 and charge her a monthly maintenance fee of $30 -- as long as the "hazard" was there.

* * * * *

Fire completely destroyed the building that housed the Capital Asbestos Fabricators Corporation plant in Alexandria, Virginia.

* * * * *

An unlucky steelworker in Belfast, Northern Ireland, was hospitalized with severe injuries, including a cracked skull and a broken pelvis, after being struck by four different vehicles within two minutes.

Bob Finnegan was crossing the street one day when a taxi hit him, flinging him over its roof. As he lay dazed in the road, a car ran into him, knocking him into the gutter. As a group of concerned pedestrians gathered around him, a van plowed into the crowd, injuring three other people and hitting Finnegan. When another vehicle came upon the scene, the crowd scattered and only one person was struck -- Finnegan, of course.

Irish hospital spokesmen said that Finnegan would recover completely.

* * * * *

A mobile home owned by a Glenn Johnson of Bremerton, Washington, suffered about $300 worth of damage from an electrical fire. Fire investigators later traced the source of the fire to faulty wiring in Johnson's smoke detector.

DID YOU KNOW...?

- Bats mate while hanging upside down.
- The ancient Romans used walnuts to dye wool and color their hair.
- Approximately every 15 minutes someone in the United States dies of a gunshot wound.
- The names of 26 states appear on the back of a $5 bill.

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